

Message Text

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ACTION NSF-02

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SUBJECT: U.S./ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

REF: (A) BUCHAREST 1565, (B) STATE 066707

1. AS INDICATED REF A, AMBASSADOR MET WITH NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NCST) PRESIDENT IOAN URSU MARCH 22 TO DISCUSS U.S./ROMANIAN S&T RELATIONSHIP PRIOR TO HIS RETURN TO WASHINGTON. AMBASSADOR ALSO USED OCCASION TO PRESENT TO URSU THREE RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR WHICH NSF REQUESTED EMBASSY/NCST ASSISTANCE IN BRINGING THEM TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH URSU, AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED THAT BEFORE THE MEETING OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS, HE WISHED TO CONFIRM WITH PRESIDENT URSU THAT U.S. AND ROMANIA WERE WORKING FROM COMMON FRAME OF REFERENCE VIS-A-VIS OUR OVERALL S&T RELATIONSHIP AND THAT HIS UNDERSTANDING OF CERTAIN UNDERTAKINGS AND PROPOSALS THAT HAD COME OUT OF MID-TERM REVIEW ACCORDED WITH THAT OF PRESIDENT URSU. THESE UNDERTAKINGS AND PROPOSALS WERE:

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--GOR DESIRED TO DEEPEN S&T RELATIONSHIP IN ALL AREAS AND IN PARTICULAR TO RENEW MOU BETWEEN NSF/NCST IN SEPTEMBER.

--NCST RECOGNIZES THAT CURRENT NSF/NCST PROGRAM MUST BE ALTERED IN ORDER TO RESOLVE LONG-STANDING

PROBLEMS AND TO ADJUST TO CHANGED PRIORITIES ON BOTH SIDES.

--FINAL FORM OF POSSIBLE NEW ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN NSF/NCST WILL RESULT FROM ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT PROGRAM NOW BEING UNDERTAKEN BY BOTH SIDES. GEORGES MATACHE OF NCST WILL GO TO WASHINGTON IN EARLY MAY TO DISCUSS ASSESSMENT RESULTS AND POSSIBLE NEW PROGRAM DIRECTIONS.

--NCST ENDORSES "WORKSHOP CONCEPT" PRESENTED BY DR. BRAINARD AS BASIS FOR POSSIBLE NEW COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN NSF/NCST AND THAT LONG-TERM JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS INVOLVING LENGTHY STAYS IN U.S. BY ROMANIAN SCIENTISTS WILL BE DEEMPHASIZED.

--EXISTING JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS WILL BE PRESSED TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSIONS. FUTURE JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS, IF ANY, WILL BE DEVELOPED PRIMARILY FROM WORKSHIPS.

--NCST WILL DEVELOP A LIST OF TOPICS FOR PROPOSED WORKSHOPS BASED ON PRIORITIES IN AREAS OF APPLIED OR BASIC RESEARCH WHICH NCST REPRESENTATIVE CAN PRESENT AT MAY MEETING.

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3. AMBASSADOR NOTED WITH SATISFACTION RECENT PROGRESS THAT HAS TAKEN PLACE IN BRINGING EXISTING PROJECTS NEARER TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSIONS; FOR EXAMPLE, TRAVEL OF DR. RADULESCU TO UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, MR. DAN SECRIERU TO UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA AND MATHEMATICS SEMINAR WHICH IS TAKING PLACE THIS WEEK IN IASI. AMBASSADOR ALSO REITERATED HIS PERSONAL DESIRE TO WORK TO STRENGTHEN OUR S&T RELATIONSHIP AND INDICATED HIS WILLINGNESS TO HOLD MEETINGS ON REGULAR BASIS WITH PRESIDENT URSU OR WITH PERSONS HE WOULD DESIGNATE TO REPRESENT HIM IN HIS ABSENCE.

4. PRESIDENT URSU ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT GOR INTERESTS ARE SAME AS THOSE OF U.S.: TO ENLARGE AND EXPAND COOPERATION NOT ONLY WITH NSF BUT WITH NUMBER OF U.S. SCIENTIFIC AGENCIES AND INSTITUTIONS. HE POINTED OUT THAT MAIN INTEREST OF GOR LAY IN AREA OF APPLIED RATHER THAN BASIC RESEARCH.

5. WITH RESPECT TO UNDERTAKINGS AND PROPOSALS THAT CAME OUT OF MID-TERM REVIEW, PARTICULARLY THOSE OUTLINED BY AMBASSADOR CONCERNING THE NSF/NCST COOPERA-

TIVE PROGRAM, URSU SAID THAT HE IS IN GENERAL AGREE-
MENT. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO HIS UNDERSTANDING, PRO-
POSED WORKSHOPS WOULD FORM PERHAPS MAIN BUT CER-
TAINLY NOT SOLE CHANNEL FOR COOPERATIVE WORK IN THE
FUTURE. NCST SPECIALISTS ARE PREPARING MATERIAL FOR
MAY MEETING AT NSF, AT WHICH TIME MATAACHE WILL
PRESENT TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR PROPOSED WORKSHIPS
AND NCST PROPOSALS ABOUT FUTURE COLLABORATION.
RE THREE PROJECTS FOR WHICH NSF HAS ASKED ASSISTANCE,
HE SAID THAT EVERY EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO MEET
REQUESTS OF AMERICAN PARTNERS.
AGGREY

NOTE BY OC/T: TELEGRAM DELAYED IN TRANSMISSION.
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